

December 15, 2014

FCC Experimental Funding Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Collegiate Peaks Bank is proud to have played an integral part in helping Chaffee County Telecom, LLC bring high speed internet to our County. Due to the diverse geographic terrain in our area, plus the lack of a major metropolitan population, other larger suppliers of internet service would not consider the initial expense and lack of large profits to bring the service here. Due to the vision of Ralph Abrams and the players with CCT, LLC., we now have the high speed internet service to the many areas of our County. By having this, our economic development strategies will be able to move forward with promoting our area to bring businesses and entrepreneurs who rely on this service, to our area. We have already seen a growth in people moving here who do their work from home and who also want to live in an area such as ours.

Collegiate Peaks Bank has done business with Ralph Abrams for many years and we have always had a good working relationship with him and his companies. Mr. Abrams is a visionary who has done numerous projects to promote the economic development of the town that he lives in, Crestone, CO and is now reaching out to the County of Saguache and Chaffee to help enable them to promote their economy also.

By obtaining the grant that he is seeking, he will be able to:

- 1. Develop redundant backhaul capacity from Chaffee and Saguache Counties.
- 2. Upgrade their existing infrastructure to handle additional customers and bandwidth.
- Hire bookkeeping assistants to work closely with their CPA to upgrade their bookkeeping system
 to comply with the Federal guidelines. This would also free up some of Mr. Abrams time to work
 with small towns and outlying areas.
- 4. Deploy new infrastructure to bring "on line" the areas that they do not serve now.

- 5. Modify and consolidate their on line billing, network monitoring, FCC reporting for VoIP taxes and information into one program. These software programs are available but they have not had the resources to purchase, test and bring on line.
- 6. Upgrade their installer sub-contractors by moving toward recognizable company owned vehicles that support their logos and unify their brand.
- 7. Develop and upgrade their marketing and advertising.

Chaffee County Telecom, LLC has been a vital part of the economic development for our area since they were able to bring in their services in 2012. They will continue to play a major role in helping this area develop in to a thriving business atmosphere. For many years, this area has been dependent upon agriculture and tourism to maintain the economy. As this will continue, Chaffee County Telecom, LLC has opened up a new beginning of a of a thriving business community. We, as business people, applaud Mr. Abrams and his company by helping make this happen. We will be grateful for the help that you can provide him with this grant.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Moore

Senior Vice President